



Gerald T. Terlep

August 14, 1943 - January 31, 2022

Dr. Gerald T. Terlep passed away on January 31, 2022, at the age of 78, at the Henry Ford Macomb Hospital in Clinton Twp.

Gerald spent more than 50 years as a social worker and therapist. He cherished his work and his clients, many of them survivors of war, addiction and violence who came to him seeking peace and a better life. He delighted in their stories, wisdom and humor, and in plowing through bureaucracy and red tape to access help to which they were entitled. He was especially proud of the private therapy practice, CUBE, he founded and operated with his wife Nancy.

Nancy was the love of Gerald's life. They were inseparable and nothing made him happier than sharing moments big and small with his wife of 33 years, from weddings and travel, to their daily breakfasts together and shared love of reading. His doctoral dissertation was "The Experience of Love in Marriage."

The father of a blended family, Gerald believed that love, not blood, ran thicker than water and he instilled those values in his children and grandchildren. He believed that a richly lived life was not an easy life, but a useful one. Gerald was uninterested in material possessions or status symbols, in part because his strongest kinship was with society's underdogs and fighters. He thought they were the smartest, strongest and bravest.

The oldest of six siblings, Gerald's father died when he was 11-years-old and his mother fought mightily to keep the family united. He took on the role of father figure both after the death of his father and after the loss of his stepfather, Francis Marcin, later in his life. Gerald's two brothers and three sisters were beloved to him, as were his 10 nieces and nephews and their children. Like their mother, who died in 1995 in Gerald's arms, Gerald and his siblings have worked hard to remain in one another's lives, and to this day maintain meaningful relationships despite living hundreds of miles apart. These connections remain with the younger generations.

Gerald earned a doctorate while raising three children along with Nancy, who at the time was earning her master's degree. He was passionate about history, philosophy and education, while also believing he had as much to learn from a single mom or a veteran as from history's greatest philosophers. He found current events bemusing, and loved to share his spin on the latest news. He eschewed modern technology, including the internet, but during the last two years figured out enough so that he was able to join weekly video calls with both his immediate and extended family. He loved collecting United Nations stamps because they captured history, but also because they have no real monetary value and are therefore easy to come by.

Gerald died of Covid-19 after two weeks in the hospital in which he was not able to see any of his family. The nurses and doctors who cared for him did the absolute best they could under extreme hardship as the hospital ICU filled with Covid patients and the staff became increasingly depleted. He was vaccinated and received a booster shot as soon as he could. He worked from home and stayed inside to remain safe.

Gerald harbored no ill will toward the unvaccinated or those who differed politically. He believed in total acceptance of people and of their beliefs; he did

not hate. His family asks that you reflect on what you are doing to prevent further devastating losses due to this pandemic, and that you consider doing more.

He was born on August 14, 1943 to Wilbert and Frances (Ochs) Terlep in Joliet, IL. Beloved husband of 33 loving years to Nancy G. (Raymond). Loving father of Andrew Raymond, The Rev. Dr. Alan (Jessica) and Sharon (Rachel Hood). Dear grandfather of Jazz Raymond, Aspen (Dani Rollins), Hassan McClean and Murphy Hood Terlep.

Cherished brother of James Terlep (Rosa), Cathy Stocz (Donald), Mary Beth Wiley (Dan), Mary Lou Regan (James) and Webb Terlep (Belle).

Visitation for Gerald will be on Thursday from 1:00 p.m. until a 4:00 p.m. funeral service at the Gendernalik Funeral Home, 35259 23 Mile Rd., New Baltimore.

Gerald's family asks that all visitors that come to the funeral home to please wear a mask, if you do not have any the family will provide KN 95 or N 95 mask for you and your family.

Memorial donations may be made to Turning Point, Inc. Domestic Violence Shelter, P.O. Box 1123, Mt. Clemens, MI 48046

Cemetery Details

Cremation

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 3. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

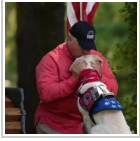
Wasik Funeral Home - New Baltimore
35259-23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047
(586) 725-0177
<https://www.gendernalikfh.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB 3. 4:00 PM (ET)

Wasik Funeral Home - New Baltimore
35259-23 Mile Road
New Baltimore, MI 48047
(586) 725-0177
<https://www.gendernalikfh.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *What shocking news. I just found out. Dang dang. What a wonderful and helpful and hopeful person. Gonna miss ya Doc.*



Dennis Blankenship - June 07, 2023 at 11:35 AM

MH

“ *Dr. Terlep, you were a light in my life, when everything was dark. Thank you for supporting me and accepting me. Though we haven't spoken in ages, I think of you often, and remember you fondly. Nancy, you're in my prayers.*

Megan Hering - February 12, 2022 at 09:09 PM

NL

“ *It was a true pleasure knowing and working with Dr. Terlep. Such a nice person and he will be greatly missed. May the Lord pull Nancy and the family into his loving and comforting arms. Nicole Laurain*

Nicole Laurain - February 04, 2022 at 09:29 PM

JD

“ *Dr. Terlep (Gerald) was a colleague of mine whom was always a kind, gentle soul. He also always made time to talk and catch up. I know his wife and family meant everything to him. He would light up when we talked about them. He always was quick with a joke and in giving sage advice when I would bring up a frustration about my children. It made my happy when I saw him and now when I think of him.*

Jeffrey DeVore - February 03, 2022 at 07:36 PM

CW

“ Dr. Terlep was the kindest person I ever knew. Despite his accomplishments and great intelligence he radiated a humility that in my eyes only lifted him head and shoulders above others. Of course being the man he was, he would stake no claim in such words. With brilliant wit and a simple thank you he could glide past a compliment and help you see the good in yourself. He always encouraged me. He always believed I could rebuild my life. He aided me to do so, and literally stood next me as things got better. He shared his family with me. He picked up what remained of my family and took them under his wing. He was the Good Doctor. He was my friend. He is irreplaceable. He is loved, now and forevermore.

Carl Wilson - February 03, 2022 at 07:10 PM

PB

“ Many fond memories of Gerry. He was perhaps the best friend of my late husband. My sympathy to all the family Patricia Brown

Patricia Brown - February 03, 2022 at 02:50 PM

JT

“ It was a privilege to work with Jerry at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital. He was a brilliant and compassionate man who seemed to know how to do just about everything in a Psychiatric Clinic. He continually amazed me with the way he solved problems creatively. Reasonable requests were very rarely turned down. Unreasonable requests were managed with grace. He was loved and appreciated by patient and staff alike. It was my joy to be able to call him friend. Well done, friend. Rest in Peace. John Trask

John Trask - February 03, 2022 at 02:44 PM

JK

“ I worked with Gerald for years at Seville Clinic but always in a different hallway until 2017 at which time I was across the hall from him and able to enjoy a few laughs. He actually had a wicked sense of humor. He was known at work for being kind and considerate and had excellent skills as a clinician. This was indeed sad news for us at Seville and all our prayers go out to his friends and family.
Jeanne Kurmas

Jeanne Kurmas - February 03, 2022 at 12:19 PM

MB

“ Mary Beth lit a candle in memory of Gerald T. Terlep



Mary Beth - February 03, 2022 at 12:18 PM

MB

“ A letter to you my dear brother: Jerry you are the brightest star of all and his love and compassion for everyone fills all those who were fortunate enough to be touched by his beautiful heart and unwavering kindness.

These past few days, Jerry, I have been looking through our family photos and in each one I see of you; you are smiling, and giving to others. A few photos stick out that are very dear to me and give me insight into your beautiful soul. You are a loving husband to Nancy, who is the love of your life, and to your beautiful children, Sharon, Alan, & Andrew. As a brother, Jim, Cathy, Mary Lou, Webb and I have been blessed beyond words that we were fortunate to have you in our lives. I know that you took on a tremendous amount of weight upon your shoulders when you were a young boy to help keep us together and safe. In this you did do and we love you deeply for it.

Our family Saturday sibling calls that we have had over the past two years were a joy to us all. I will treasure that time and please know that you are in our hearts each and every day. We love you my dear brother for all eternity.

You are now in the loving arms of our dear mother and father. This is not goodbye, it is we will see each other again. You are truly loved and admired.

Your loving sister, Mary Beth.

Mary Beth - February 03, 2022 at 12:18 PM

SS

*Beautifully written MaryBeth, may your brother Rest In Forever Peace.
Sharon, Sarah's Mother*

Sharon Ann Schultz - February 03, 2022 at 08:43 PM

AB

“*Dr. Terlep has been the single greatest, most influential person in my life. He is the only parental figure I've ever had in my life. I've always viewed him as the father I wish I had as a child. I've often thought of what I could have accomplished if he had raised me. Doc helped me become the man I am today. He has given me the tools, and taught me how to be the best person I can be. Doc always had so much confidence in me, and his voice soothed my mind. His compassion and love for mankind soothed my heart. He molded me, and forever changed me. I started seeing Dr. T around 1999 ish, once a month sessions became one a week when he invited me to his private practice. Doc set goals for me, then taught me how to achieve, all along the way little lessons in life were embedded, and I could see him undoing the damage of my youth. 2 years ago he introduced me to a retired financial adviser, again forever changing my life in the best way possible. The last goal he set for me was returning to college for a engineering degree. Yes he was reasonable for getting me there in the first place. I intend to follow through with this goal, and into the next step of life with the plan we've been laying out this last year. I will forever honor you Doc. I miss you, I love you. The world is a better place because you were part of it.*”

Andrew Bresinski - February 03, 2022 at 12:17 PM

KM

“ I started working with Gerald right before the pandemic hit. He was always such a kind person with a smile. When he retired, he had to turn in his laptop he was so excited and smiling from ear to ear. He spoke about being able to get out to travel and spend time with his grandchildren. After reading his obituary and the kind words from his family and friends I learned so much more about him. He will be truly missed. Praying for peace and comfort during this difficult time for his family and friends.



Kim McQueen - February 03, 2022 at 07:32 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gerald T. Terlep.



February 02, 2022 at 09:37 PM



“ Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Gerald T. Terlep.



February 02, 2022 at 07:57 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gerald T. Terlep.* ”



February 02, 2022 at 07:27 PM

MR

“ My dearest brother Jerry touched my life in so many positive and loving ways. He was truly a kind, compassionate, and caring man.

Jerry's dedication and love for Nancy was evident. As I reflect back, I remember thinking how sweet it was to see them always holding hands – whether sitting next to each other or walking together. He shared with me how proud he was of Alan, Sharon, and Andrew. His delight and love for his granddaughter, Murphy, brought him so much joy and happiness.

I was fortunate enough to live nearby so we were able to share as much time together as possible. For a period of time, we met once a month for lunch to keep in touch and share sibling time. I will sorely miss this time with him.

A recent joyous memory I have of Jerry was this past August, 2021. Jerry called me and said he and Nancy were watching Murphy for the day and wanted to know if I'd like to join them for the day. I was delighted because I was watching two of my granddaughters. Three adults, three little girls were on their way to the Detroit Zoo. We spent a wonderful afternoon together. When we left the zoo, Jerry said it was a good day because we were returning the girls to their parents in one piece, no animal bites, and no lost children - but let's not tell them we couldn't figure out how to unfold the stroller. Thank goodness we had a wagon. Dear Jerry, you will be in my thoughts at the next zoo outing.

I am comforted by the fact that Jerry and I were able to speak for a few minutes when he was in the hospital. His last words to me were "I love you". I told him I loved him too.

The world is certainly a sadder place without you dear brother.

Mary Lou Regan - February 02, 2022 at 02:55 PM

BW

Thank you sister for sharing such a wonderful set of memories of our brother. You are helping us all grieve and heal.

Brother Webb - February 02, 2022 at 11:30 PM

MB

Thank you Mary Lou, Your words are a comfort to us and will be held in our hearts. Jerry can now peacefully sit under a tree and read his precious books until one day we join him. We love you dearly Jerry.

Mary Beth - February 03, 2022 at 12:32 PM

CB

“ *Condolences to Sharon & her family. Fond memories of Sharon in high school. She was my editor in chief in high school & in my heart. Best to her & those she loves at this most difficult time.*

Carolyn Bourland - February 02, 2022 at 09:42 AM

DS

“ *Dr. T was right with me through my journey out of the worst part of my life. I had a heart attack in 2001 at the age of 45. This was the beginning of many complications that I finally admitted I couldn't handle. In March of 2003, I met Dr. T for the first time. He helped me find my way through all of the anxiety and the loss of any self confidence I had. Which used to be a lot. He called for our scheduled phone appt. a couple of weeks ago to postpone it due to his illness. It was rescheduled for 1:00pm, Thursday, Feb. 3rd, 2022. Him, and my cardiologist, were the only two doctors, out of many, that were there for me from the beginning. I will fulfill my obligation to him and be there for my scheduled appointment. He was always there for me. I will be there for him.*

Dennis Schalm - February 01, 2022 at 09:31 PM

JG

“ Sending special love and support to Sharon Terlep, her wife, Rachel, and their daughter Murphy in this time of bereavement. And to all the family, who have lost a good man. Though I did not know him, reading Gerald’s obituary has made him a friend. I know he will be missed by many.
Jean Golden

Jean Golden - February 01, 2022 at 08:45 PM

CS

“ Cathy Stocz lit a candle in memory of Gerald T. Terlep



Cathy Stocz - February 01, 2022 at 07:40 PM

CS

*Dear Lord
Grant your servant Jerry enter into
your Loving Arms. And give him the power to look down on your loving
servants. We must follow the Ten Commandments to enter the
Kingdom oh God Amem.*

Cathy Stocz - February 01, 2022 at 07:46 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gerald T. Terlep.



February 01, 2022 at 11:53 AM

ML

“ Gerry was dedicated to the idea that positive energy can create change. If anyone approached him with an idea that mattered to them he listened patiently and took them seriously. He was rarely dismissive and the person left him feeling supported and enriched. As a therapist he could withhold judgement and build on the best that his clients offered.

He experienced loss and pain early in his life - when his dad passed away Gerry's siblings spoke with love and appreciation for his support. His arthritis was unusually painful but he did not let that pain define him and it didn't dampen his droll sense of humor. His unflinching sense of humor often focused on a bemused acceptance of life's many absurdities. His son Alan was heavily indebted to his dad for intellectual inspiration and challenging discussion. Gerry's academic accomplishments were an indication of his drive and tenaciousness. His daughter Sharon was, like Alan, a great source of pride. He let his children be themselves and their minds flowered for this. I know they will miss him a great deal.

Madelon Possley (former sister in law) - January 31, 2022 at 10:16 PM

WT

My oldest brother was a very special man who the world is a much lesser place without him. He never judged anyone, feeling counseling & love was a better path to take. He was the patriarch of us six siblings..and lived through the turbulent 1960's as a young man always taking the high road while others became embittered or cynical. Highly educated without pretense..Gerry related to one & all..with a comforting and encouraging word. I will always miss him..and will never forget the love he gave me as his youngest brother. He is with my Dad & Mom along with our Grandparents and Uncles & Aunts..I hope the place they all are in..is filled with hope and love every second & free of the divisions we find ourselves in amongst our common man. May he rest eternal. I was able to speak with him by phone last week and although very sick..he said simply "I love you." I told him the same.

Webb Terlep - February 01, 2022 at 05:45 AM

CS

My brother Jerry who was kind and Genuine in every way. Just about a couple of years ago he had expressed to me the sadness of losing our father. Now this was in 1954 he was only 11 years old the relatives and neighbors at the funeral said " now you're the man of the house " he told me what a heavy burden to lay on shoulders at such a young age. As I remember it he helped mom in anyway possible without complaints. We looked up to him as a big brother with love. I also remember Jerry reading the book martyrdom of saints to me and I was so interested in it. Math was never my strong suit I was in the third grade he would with a blackboard in the dinning room drill me in arithmetic. I love you Jerry I miss you and my tears are not fading. You're with our Lord in Heaven in his loving Arms. Your sis Cathy.

Cathy Stocz - February 01, 2022 at 01:22 PM

MB

Webb & Cathy, thank you for the wonderful sentiment for dear Jerry. He is in our hearts and thoughts forever. Beth.

Mary Beth - February 03, 2022 at 12:33 PM